News Release

For Release:

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Northern District of Ohio

Gregory A. White United States Attorney

John D. Sammon Assistant U.S. Attorney (216) 622-3829

Gregory A. White, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, announced that Theodore J. Russo was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Ann Aldrich in Cleveland, Ohio. Russo was sentenced to three years probation with the first six months on home confinement without electronic monitoring. Russo was also ordered to make restitution in the amount of \$42,930 to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Theodore J. Russo, age 57, resides at 18 Kensington Drive, Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

On June 20, 2007, Russo plead guilty to an information which charged him with theft of government funds. The information alleged that the defendant failed to report to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) that he was living with his wife, his wife's income, and certain assets and businesses he owned. The information further alleged that, as a result, Russo received VA pension disability benefit payments to which he was not entitled.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John D. Sammon, following an investigation by the Department of Veterans Affairs, Inspector General, Office of Investigations.

#####